

September 11, 1953

Dear Doctor Felix:

I have your recent letter and mimeographed committee report relating to the distribution of typing phages. Please be assured of my sympathetic appreciation of your reluctance to distribute such materials before they have been properly worked up. I am naturally interested to test as wide a variety as possible of Salmonella phages for their competence in genetic transduction, and have not been particularly concerned with the role of the phages tested in typing programs.

As I am relating in slightly more detail to Dr. Anderson, several additional phages have been tested for this competence. Of the paratyphi B typing series, B.A.O.R. is quite active, as is the determinant k phage of typhi. If it should ever amuse you, it would not be difficult to show the transduction of motility to O-901 by means of the stock preparation of this phage. Unfortunately, the Y/ O-1, -2, -3 series of phages continues to give negative results in transduction assays, even with O-901 lysogenic for k as indicator.

Dr. Anderson may also have relied my possibly impertinent request to be stored somewhere kept in mind if you should happen to have reprints of your older (and properly described as classical) papers on Salmonella serology.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg